

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 07431 200920Z
ACTION ABF-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SIL-01 LAB-04 EB-07 /021 W
-----200943Z 099045 /14

P 200830Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7945

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 7431

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, JA
SUBJECT: LABOR COST NEGOTIATIONS - GAO STUDY

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION CINCPAC HONOLULU INFO SECDEF WASHDC,
AMEMB TOKYO, CDRUSARJ CAMP ZAMA JA, COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA,
ZEN/5AF YOKOTA AB JA P 190100Z MAY 77 REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L

SECDEF FOR ASD/MRA&L AND ASD/COMPTROLLER

CINCPAC FOR J12

SUBJ: GAO REVIEW OF FOREIGN NATIONAL COMPENSATION COSTS AND
RETIREMENT BENEFITS (U)

REF: A. CINCPAC 122345Z MAY 77 (NOTAL)
B. USGAO NOTICE OF VISIT D&D 6 MAY 77 (CODE 97304) (NOTAL)
C. AMEMB TOKYO 280920Z APR 77/6318 (C)
D. AMEMB TOKYO 100831Z MAR 77/3406 (C)

1. (C) REF A TRANSMITTED GAO REQUEST FOR DATA AND INFORMATION ON
USFJ JAPANESE AND US CIVILIAN COSTS AND BUDGETS, POSSIBLE ALTER-
NATE LABOR RESOURCES, ETC IN PREPARATION FOR 5 WEEK GAO VISIT
ANNOUNCED IN REF B. REFS C AND D SUMMARIZED STATUS OF JOINT
COMMITTEE ADDRESSAL OF LABOR ISSUES, INITIAL US NEGOTIATING
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PROPOSALS, GOJ OBJECTIVES AND ASSESSMENT OF US PROSPECTS FOR
GOJ LABOR COST SHARING.

2. (C) SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE CONCERN ABOUT FOREIGN
NATIONAL LABOR COSTS IS APPRECIATED AND SHARED BY EMBASSY AND
USFJ, WHO HAVE ENCOURAGED CONGRESSIONAL VISITORS AS WELL AS
LEADING U.S. OFFICIALS TO REGISTER WITH GOJ THEIR PRECEPTIONS

OF PROBLEM. HOWEVER, GAO VISIT AT THIS TIME WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL, ESPECIALLY INASMUCH AS IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO PROVIDE FULL PICTURE OF LABOR COST PROBLEM AND U.S. EFFORT TO ALLEVIATE BURDEN. MUCH OF DATA IS CONTAINED IN REPORT OF SIX-MONTH US-GOJ JOINT STUDY UNDER JOINT COMMITTEE AUSPICES, AND OTHER RELATED JOINT COMMITTEE DOCUMENTS, NONE OF WHICH ARE RELEASABLE WITHOUT GOJ CONSENT. IN VIEW OF POLITICAL SENSITIVITY OF ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS WE DOUBT WHETHER THIS COULD BE OBTAINED. MOREOVER, WE FEAR THAT GOJ KNOWLEDGE OF GAO STUDY COULD HAVE ADVERSE IMPACT ON NEGOTIATIONS THEMSELVES, WHICH WILL BE ENTERING SENSITIVE STAGE AT TIME OF SCHEDULED VISIT.

3. (C) AS PURELY PRACTICAL MATTER, COLLECTION AND PREPARATION OF DATA AND INFORMATION REQUESTED IN REF A AND NECESSARY EXPLANATIONS TO GAO TEAM WOULD ENCUMBER LIMITED RESOURCES ON PART OF SERVICE COMMAND PERSONNEL SPECIALISTS, COMPTROLLER STAFFS, AND HQ USFJ LABOR BRANCH NEEDED TO SUPPORT CURRENT NEGOTIATION EFFORT.

4. (C) AMEMBASSY STRONGLY CONCURS WITH USFJ RECOMMENDATION THAT PROPOSED GAO VISIT BE POSTPONED UNTIL END OF YEAR, AT WHICH TIME GAO COULD REASSESS NEED FOR VISIT IN LIGHT OF NEGOTIATIONS. IN THE MEANTIME, FULL RECORD OF NEGOTIATING SESSIONS WILL CONTINUE TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO YOU AS IN REFS C AND D.

5. (U) ASD/MRA&L AND ASD/COMPTROLLER ADDED AT SPECIFIC REQUEST OF CINCPAC ACTION OFFICER.

GDS: 31 DEC 83 UNQUOTE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR, COSTS, STUDIES, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TOKYO07431
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770180-0084
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770532/aaaabcbf.tel
Line Count: 89
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d9f5c58c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ABF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2425713
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LABOR COST NEGOTIATIONS - GAO STUDY FOLLOWING SENT ACTION CINCPAC HONOLULU INFO SECDEF WASHDC, AMEMB TOKYO, CDRUSARJ CAMP ZAMA JA, COMNAVFORJAPAN
TAGS: MARR, ELAB, JA, GAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbcc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d9f5c58c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009